

## News

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### **[OpenDocument ratified by ISO](#)**

The OpenDocument file format (ODF) was ratified by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). [More...](#)

### **[Unipage - standards-based single-file web archive format](#)**

[Unipage](#) is a new spin on saving a complete web page in a single file that has all the referenced images and stylesheets and such like embedded in it. [More...](#)

### **[PDF Forward Compatibility Issues](#)**

A couple of interesting articles on pdfzone.com highlight the perils of digital preservation. [More...](#)

### **[Virtual Machine File Format Competition](#)**

Virtualization is the latest hot technology, and the main players are all trying to get their file formats to be the standard. [More...](#)

### **[WhatIsThatFile.com](#)**

[WhatIsThatFile.com](#) is a new site to help identify files based on the name rather than the contents. [More...](#)

### **[Battle Lines in the Document Format Wars](#)**

Both Microsoft and the OpenDocument camp are forming alliances to promote their respective formats. [More...](#)

### **[Determining a character set](#)**

I recently had a couple files that were mostly US-ASCII but had a few strange bytes in them. To help figure out what characters they should be, I made an online utility to [reverse map from bytes to character sets](#).

### **[Tags vs. Categories](#)**

After reading a very interesting post from Ari Paparo on [the differences between Blink.com and Del.icio.us](#), as well as my own experience with adding information, I decided to switch from complicated hierarchical categories to flat tags. [More...](#)

### **[Sun to offer online conversion of MSWord to OpenDocument](#)**

Sun [announced](#) an online service to

#### Image Conversions

[Common](#) - convert between standard image types

[SVG to raster](#) - convert vector SVG images to PNG, JPEG or TIFF images.

[Identify](#) - detailed information about an image

[Metadata](#) - view metadata for standard image types

#### Text Conversions

[CharSet](#) - character set (aka Code Page) conversion

[UTF](#) - change UTF encoding

[unix2dos](#) - Unix to Windows/MS-DOS text files

[dos2unix](#) - Windows/MS-DOS to Unix text files

[More text conversions...](#)

#### Document Conversions

[PDF to Text](#) - extract text from an Adobe Acrobat PDF file

[PowerPoint to Flash](#) - convert from Microsoft PowerPoint (.PPT) to Flash (.SWF)

#### Online Tools

[HexDump](#) - view contents of a binary file

[Strings](#) - find text in a binary file

[RegEx](#) - regular expression tester

[Hash](#) - calculate hash functions

[IPLocation](#) - geographic location from IP address

[Label](#) - label and envelope printing

[More tools...](#)

convert files from MSOffice/MSWord's proprietary formats to the new OpenDocument format. This is actually from November 2006 and I haven't seen anything else about it. It sounds like it is primarily to promote their new grid computing initiative and that there may be a cost associated with it. I am working on a similar service, which will be free (at least for smaller files). Via [Richard MacManus](#).

### **[Grant for the Global Digital Format Registry](#)**

The Harvard University Library got a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to make a Global Digital Format Registry. [More...](#)



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